

15 December 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Scientific Intelligence Committee

SUBJECT: Scientific Intelligence Coverage for NIS Areas

1. Reference is made to your 20 October 1960 memorandum to me, and to related items in the proceedings of NIS Committee Meetings No. 323 and No. 324 which have been forwarded to you.
2. As the proceedings indicate, it continues to be the view of the NIS Committee that NIS Areas with scientific intelligence significance require both Section 17 and Chapter VII coverage. The latter requirement is met, for areas with major significance, by a fully developed Chapter VII. For less complex scientific areas--such as those listed in 2. b. of your 20 October memorandum--the same requirement can be suitably met by consolidated Chapters VII, which have a simple and flexible format for providing coverage of significant topics but omitting coverage of other standard Chapter VII section topics when not of area significance.
3. The NIS Committee concurs in 2. a. of your 20 October memorandum as the NIS Areas for which both Sections 17 and related standard Chapters VII will be produced. The listing in 2. b. is accepted as a general forecast of NIS Areas for which consolidated Chapters VII will be produced in addition to the Sections 17. However, this list should be re-examined annually when the Scientific Intelligence Committee forwards for NIS Committee approval successive three-year forecasts of NIS production. This review would determine annually, in the light of area developments in the scientific field, whether the Chapter VII treatment should be in a standard or consolidated format, or possibly that neither Section 17 nor Chapter VII coverage was considered to be required. This annual review also should be occasion for examining NIS Areas not previously listed to determine whether area scientific developments warranted undertaking coverage in the NIS.

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4. Should it develop that any of the presently recommended areas do not require further NIS coverage, I will issue destruction notices on the related Chapters VII when notified by the SIC that they are no longer valid.

5. In order to achieve an adequate maintenance cycle, the NIS Committee considers that one consolidated Chapter VII should be produced each year on the less complex scientific areas, in addition to the 3 regular Chapters VII and the normal quota of Section 17 contributions to Chapter I.

Chairman, NIS Committee

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